



<NOTICE>
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<AGENCY TYPE='S'>DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

<SUBAGY>Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

<SUBJECT>Agency Information Collection Activities:

Information Collection Renewal; Comment Request;

Subordinated Debt

AGENCY: Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and Request for Comment.

SUMMARY: The OCC, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on a continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA).

In accordance with the requirements of the PRA, the OCC may not conduct or sponsor, and the respondent is not required to respond to, an information collection unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number.

The OCC is soliciting comment concerning renewal of its information collection titled, "Subordinated Debt."

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before June 23, 2014.

ADDRESSES: Because paper mail in the Washington, DC area and at the OCC is subject to delay, commenters are encouraged to submit comments by e-mail if possible.

Comments may be sent to: Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Office of

the Comptroller of the Currency, Attention: 1557-0320, 400 7th Street, SW., Suite 3E-218, Mail Stop 9W-11, Washington, DC 20219. In addition, comments may be sent by fax to (571) 465-4326 or by electronic mail to regs.comments@occ.treas.gov. You may personally inspect and photocopy comments at the OCC, 400 7th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20219. For security reasons, the OCC requires that visitors make an appointment to inspect comments. You may do so by calling (202) 649-6700. Upon arrival, visitors will be required to present valid government-issued photo identification and to submit to security screening in order to inspect and photocopy comments.

All comments received, including attachments and other supporting materials, are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. Do not enclose any information in your comment or supporting materials that you consider confidential or inappropriate for public disclosure.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Johnny Vilela or Mary H. Gottlieb, OCC Clearance Officers, (202) 649-5490, for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing, TTY, (202) 649-5597, Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 400 7th Street, SW., Suite 3E-218, Mail Stop 9W-11, Washington, DC 20219.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), Federal agencies must obtain approval from OMB for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. "Collection of information" is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c) to include agency requests or requirements that members of the public submit reports, keep records, or provide information to a third party. Section

3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)) requires Federal agencies to provide a 60-day notice in the Federal Register concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information, before submitting the collection to OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, the OCC is publishing notice of the proposed collection of information set forth in this document.

In connection with issuance of the interim final rule entitled “Basel III Conforming Amendments Related to Cross-References, Subordinated Debt and Limits Based on Regulatory Capital,”¹ OMB provided a six-month approval for this information collection. The OCC is proposing to extend OMB approval of the collection for the standard three years.

Title: Subordinated Debt.

OMB Control No.: 1557-0320.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 184.

Burden per Respondent: 1.3 hours.

Total Burden: 239 hours.

Description: Federal law and OCC regulations require that, under certain circumstances, a national bank or Federal savings association (collectively, “institution”) must receive OCC approval to issue or prepay subordinated debt and include subordinated debt in tier 2 capital. The OCC uses information contained in various applications submitted by institutions to decide whether to grant approval for requests to issue or prepay subordinated debt and/or include subordinated debt in tier 2 capital.

The OCC uses the request for approval to issue or prepay subordinated debt or include subordinated debt in tier 2 capital, outlined in 12 CFR 5.47 and 163.81, to determine whether to grant or deny an institution's request. In addition, when the prepayment is in the form of a call option, the OCC uses the information provided to determine whether to require the institution to replace the instrument with an instrument that meets the criteria for tier 1 or tier 2 capital, and if so, whether the replacement instrument would qualify as tier 1 or tier 2 capital. The information collected is used to ensure compliance with legal and regulatory requirements. In the case of a prepayment in the form of a call option, the OCC uses the additional information collected to implement a requirement in the OCC's Basel III regulations, as described below.

Through the interim final rule, the OCC revised the requirements of § 5.47. Specifically, all national banks now must receive prior OCC approval in order to prepay subordinated debt that is included in tier 2 capital, and certain banks must receive prior approval to prepay subordinated debt that is not included in tier 2 capital. If the prepayment is in the form of a call option, a national bank must submit the information required for general prepayment requests under paragraph (n)(1)(ii)(A) and also comply with paragraph (n)(1)(ii)(B)(2), which requires a national bank to submit either: (1) a statement explaining why the bank believes that following the proposed prepayment the bank would continue to hold an amount of capital commensurate with its risk; or (2) a description of the replacement capital instrument that meets the criteria for tier 1 or tier 2 capital under 12 CFR 3.20, including the amount of such instrument and the time frame for issuance. The OCC may require the bank to replace the subordinated debt instrument with an instrument of an equivalent amount that satisfies the requirements for a tier 1 or

¹ 79 FR 11300 (February 28, 2014).

tier 2 capital instrument.

The OCC also revised the requirements of § 163.81 in the interim rule. Specifically, the prepayment of subordinated debt securities or mandatorily redeemable preferred stock (“covered securities”) included in tier 2 capital now requires prior OCC approval. If the prepayment is in the form of a call option, a Federal savings association must submit the information required for general prepayment requests under paragraph (j)(2)(i) and also comply with paragraph (j)(2)(ii)(A), which requires a Federal savings association to submit either: (1) a statement explaining why the Federal savings association believes that following the proposed prepayment the savings association would continue to hold an amount of capital commensurate with its risk; or (2) a description of the replacement capital instrument that meets the criteria for tier 1 or tier 2 capital under 12 CFR 3.20, including the amount of such instrument and the time frame for issuance. The OCC may require the Federal savings association to replace the subordinated debt instrument with an instrument of an equivalent amount that satisfies the requirements for a tier 1 or tier 2 capital instrument.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on:

(a) Whether the collections of information are necessary for the proper performance of the OCC’s functions, including whether the information has practical utility;

(b) The accuracy of the OCC’s estimates of the burden of the information collections, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(c) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(d) Ways to minimize the burden of information collections on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

<SIG><DATED>Dated: April 17, 2014.

<NAME>Stuart E. Feldstein
Director, Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division

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